

In the Specification

At page 1, the paragraph inserted before the "Technical Field" by the amendment dated December 27, 2002, has been replaced with the paragraph shown below:

RELATED PATENT DATA

C2 This patent resulted from a Continuation Application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/146,838, filed September 3, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. ~~6,478,978 B1~~ 6,372,601 B1, issued April 16, 2002, entitled "Isolation Region Forming Methods," the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference.